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AIPC 3058
Copy 6 of 7

24 July 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Project AQUATONE Charter and Letter of Authorization

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1. [redacted] called this afternoon to say that he, [redacted] and Mr. Houston are somewhat concerned about the present status of our basic operating charter. That is to say, the Project Outline, which the Director approved at the initiation of this Project, directing Mr. Bissell to conduct the Project itself and to expend certain funds to see that the basic mission was accomplished, needs to be brought up to date.

2. As I recall it, Mr. Bissell intended last fall to bring the document up to date to reflect the difference between the tasks originally assigned him and the mission as it ultimately developed, particularly as it affected additional funds obligated and contracts entered into.

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3. Along with their concern over the outdated status of this original charter, [redacted] reported that as far as he and [redacted] knew, there has been, as yet, no appropriate appointment of [redacted] as Contracting Officer for the Project, although to my recollection Mr. Bissell did sign a Letter of Authorization to George, directing him to engage in certain contracts and to obligate Project funds in furtherance of the basic charter signed by Mr. Dulles.

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4. The General Counsel's Office feels that it is now time for us to tidy up this situation and, accordingly, [redacted] asked if I would gather together whatever significant papers are in our files on these matters and forward them to him. I agreed to do so but I feel it appropriate that Mr. Bissell give his permission to this move, even though the General Counsel would, by his own admission, be willing to redraft the charter and the appointment paper for [redacted]

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[redacted]
Director of Administration
PCS/DCI

APPROVED:
(For release of said papers to the General Counsel)

Richard M. Bissell, Jr.
Project Director

JACrush

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